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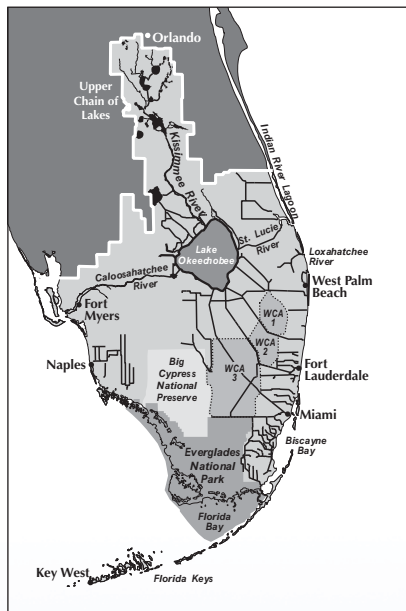
# Managing Water in South Florida

NOVEMBER 2008

## The South Florida Water Management District

is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.

**Our Mission** is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems, and water supply.



## Who We Are & What We Do

We serve 16 counties from Orlando to Key West and from Fort Myers to Fort Lauderdale. Our District encompasses 31% of the state's land area (18,000 sq. miles) and 41% of the population (7.5 million).

We operate the primary flood control network – the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) project – along with other system components now totaling more than 2,300 miles of canals/levees, 2,200 water control structures and 61 pump stations.

We safeguard and expand regional water supplies for people and the environment for today and the future.

We ensure water quality in one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world.

We restore and protect our natural systems, including the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Coastal Estuaries and America's Everglades.

## Strategic Priorities

- ✓ **Restore the Everglades by:**
  - Acquiring land and planning projects to expand water storage and treatment options south of Lake Okeechobee to revive the River of Grass
  - Advancing construction schedules of existing key projects
  - Implementing the Long-Term Plan to achieve water quality standards
- ✓ **Protect and restore natural systems in the Northern Everglades (Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie watersheds) by increasing storage capacity and water quality treatment**
- ✓ **Refurbish the regional water management system by implementing the 50-year Plan**
- ✓ **Meet the current and future demands of water users and the environment by implementing regional water supply plans**
- ✓ **Retain and recruit a high-quality, diverse workforce by continuing to recognize the value of employees**



## Programs & Goals

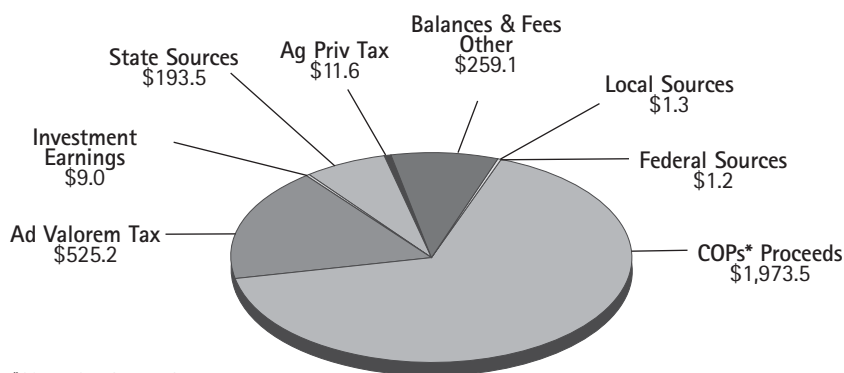
To achieve the South Florida Water Management District's broad mission and many mandates, our responsibilities have been organized into 11 programs and goals:

- **Coastal Watersheds** - Restore coastal watersheds and receiving water bodies through local initiatives and partnerships, and applied scientific research
- **Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan** - Restore, preserve and protect the South Florida ecosystem through implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and other related federal water resources projects
- **District Everglades** - Restore Everglades water quality, hydrology and ecology
- **Kissimmee Watershed** - Restore ecological integrity to the Kissimmee River and its floodplain ecosystem and integrate Kissimmee watershed management strategies with those of Lake Okeechobee protection and water supply development
- **Lake Okeechobee** - Improve the health of the Lake Okeechobee ecosystem by improving water quality, reducing or eliminating exotic species and better managing water levels
- **Land Stewardship** - Provide natural resource protection, effective land management and reasonable opportunities for appropriate agricultural use, while allowing compatible recreational uses on designated public lands
- **Modeling and Scientific Support** - Provide technically sound modeling and water quality monitoring and assessment services of the highest quality standards in support of District water resource programs
- **Operations & Maintenance** - Minimize damage from flooding, provide adequate regional water supply, and protect and restore the environment by optimally operating and maintaining the primary flood control and water supply system
- **Regulation** - Manage and protect the region's water resources by providing fair, consistent and timely review of permit applications; ensure compliance with issued permits; and take enforcement action where necessary
- **Water Supply** - Ensure an adequate supply of water to protect natural systems and to meet all existing and projected reasonable-beneficial uses, while sustaining water resources for future generations
- **Mission Support** - Provide the District with optimum support and logistical functions

## How We Are Funded

District activities are funded by a combination of ad valorem (*property*) taxes, and by other sources such as federal and state revenues and grants. Fiscal Year 2009 revenue sources are shown below:

**Where the Money Comes From**  
FY2009 Revenue Budget (\$ Millions)



\*COPS - Certificates of Participation

**Total Revenue \$2.97 Billion**

## District Locations

### Headquarters

West Palm Beach: (561) 686-8800  
or (800) 432-2045 (Florida Only)

### Field Stations

Clewiston: (863) 983-1431  
Fort Lauderdale: (954) 452-4814  
Homestead: (305) 242-5933  
Kissimmee: (407) 846-5226  
Miami: (305) 513-3420  
Okeechobee: (863) 462-5280  
West Palm Beach: (561) 791-4100

### Service Centers

Broward: (954) 713-3200  
Florida Keys: (305) 853-3219 or (800) 464-5067  
Ft. Myers/Lower West Coast: (239) 338-2929  
or (800) 248-1201  
Martin/St. Lucie: (772) 223-2600 or (800) 250-4100  
Miami-Dade: (305) 377-7274 or (800) 250-4300  
Naples/Big Cypress Basin: (239) 263-7615  
Okeechobee: (863) 462-5260 or (800) 250-4200  
Orlando: (407) 858-6100 or (800) 250-4250  
Palm Beach County: (561) 682-6000 or (800) 432-2045



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